



George Bush Presidential Library

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Inventory for FOIA Request 2015-0755-F

Records on Special Government Employees

Extent

4 folders

Access

Collection is open to all researchers. Access to Bush Presidential Records, Bush Vice Presidential Records, and Quayle Vice Presidential Records is governed by the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)(5 USC 552 as amended) and the Presidential Records Act (PRA)(44 USC 22) and therefore records may be restricted in whole or in part in accordance with legal exemptions.

Copyright

Documents in this collection that were prepared by officials of the United States government as part of their official duties are in the public domain. Researchers are advised to consult the copyright law of the United States (Title 17, USC) which governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material.

Provenance

Official records of George Bush's presidency and vice presidency are housed at the George Bush Presidential Library and administered by the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) under the provisions of the Presidential Records Act (PRA).

Processed By

Staff Archivists, June 2015. Previously restricted materials are added as they are released.

System of Arrangement

Records that are responsive to this FOIA request were found in two collection areas—Bush Presidential Records: Staff and Office Files and Quayle Vice Presidential Records: Staff and Office Files. As policy, Staff and Office Files are processed at the folder level, that is, individual documents are not selected and removed from a folder for processing. While this method maintains folder integrity, it frequently results in the incidental processing of documents that are not wholly responsive to the subject area.

Related Collections

Related material may be found in FOIA request 1998-0252-F entitled "Ethics Legislation and Internal Administration Ethics Issues".

Scope and Content

The materials in FOIA 2015-0755-F are a selective, not necessarily all inclusive, body of documents responsive to the topic of the FOIA. Researchers should consult the archivist about related materials.

FOIA 2015-0755-F contains materials related special government employees (SGE). Congress created the SGE category in 1962 when it revised the criminal conflict of interest statutes. Congress realized it needed to apply appropriate conflict of interest restrictions to experts, consultants, and other advisors who serve the government on a temporary basis. However, Congress also decided that the government could not obtain the expertise it needed if experts are required to forego their private professional lives as a condition of temporary service. As defined in 18 U.S.C. § 202, an SGE is someone who is retained, designated, appointed, or employed to perform temporary duties, with or without compensation, for not more than 130 days during any period of 365 consecutive days. This designation does not apply to independent contractors.

The Bush Presidential WHORM Subject and Staff and Office Files contain correspondence, printed material, and papers. The letters and memos in this collection include communications between administration officials and private individuals explaining conflicts of interest and related bylaws. There are also examples of letters sent to private attorneys from the Office of Government Ethics (OGE) describing application of criminal conflict of interest statutes. There are also memos explaining basic information about SGE. There is a copy of a story published in "The Washington Post" about Robert Teeter as political advisor to President Bush. It discusses potential conflicts of interest in the White House.

Several papers are present among the documents. There are reprints of a paper presented at a 1981 OGE conference. It addresses the application of conflict of interest laws and regulations regarding SGE. There are also reprints from the Federal Personnel Manual describing how conflicts of interest statutes affect SGE. Other reprints explain the status of an informal presidential advisor, consultants to presidential nominees, and part-time advance personnel. There are also pages explaining OGE guidelines regarding special employees.

The following is a list of documents and folders processed in response to FOIA 2015-0755-F.

Bush Presidential Records: Staff and Office Files

Counsels Office, White House

Intrater, Arnold, Files—White House Counsel Issues Files

1981 Folder: 15—OGE Conference: Special Government Employees: Application of Conflict of Interest Laws and Regulations [OA/ID CF00260]

Counsels Office, White House

Swanson, Rob, Files—Alpha Subject Files

Special Government Employees [OA/ID CF01285]

Counsels Office, White House

Walden, Greg, Files—Alphabetical Subject Files

Special Government Employees [OA/ID CF02031]

Quayle Vice Presidential Records: Staff and Office Files

Legal Counsel's Office, White House

Fischer, Llewellyn, Files—Subject Files

Ethics—OGE Special Government Employees [OA/ID 21881]

Last modified: 06/16/2015